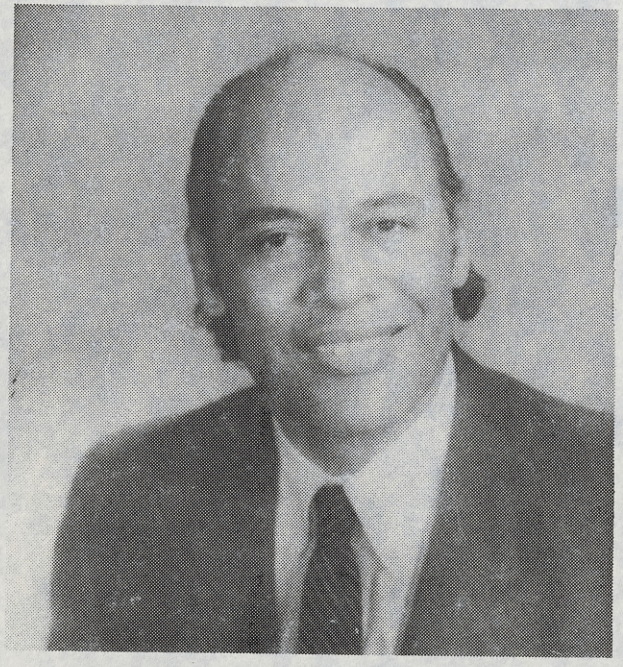
IN LOVING MEMORY

OF

REV. WALTER R. TUCKER, D.D.S.
MAYOR OF COMPTON, CALIFORNIA
1924 - 1990



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1990
11:00 A.M.
DOUBLE ROCK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1900 W. ALONDRA BLVD., COMPTON, CA
REV. C. ALBERT HENSON
OFFICIANT

A Tribute To My Husband, Walter R. Tucker,
from Martha H. Tucker

Walter R. Tucker, my husband, my love, I pay tribute to you today for the things you were able to pass from yourself to me---- the things that were as close to you as breath-----the things that have become a part of my breath:

"... Put God first and everthing will turn out the way it's supposed to.

Accept Jesus Christ as Lord of your life...He is the only reality that can bring permanent joy out of despair and eternal life.

Always remember the poor. For what better purpose could you be born? Don't let "Big I" and "little you" rule your life. Turn off those electric lights. Those who waste will come to want.

Do it Now! Never put off till tomorrow, something you can do today. Don't lie in the first place. You'll just have to tell another one to cover it up. If they don't like the truth now that's their problem -- not yours.

Don't be lazy. A slothful person will go hungry.

Never let anyone, no matter how high their station in life, talk about Compton or Black people. According to the things that's been dealt us, we're equal to anyone...

Never hold a grudge. The grudge has a way of holding only you down. Forgive!

Don't worry about material things. I've never heard of anyone taking them with them, and they can't come back for them. It's better to store up favors in heaven.

We don't manufacture guns or bullets. So, let us fight daily to make things better by the ballot, by legislation.

Attack issues, never people. Individuals are not the issue. But, issues affect my people... senior citizens, the children, the crippled, blind and the sick.

Give genuine love to the people of Compton and they will love you back.

No man can judge you----only God knows the secret and intents of your heart.

Bless those who would kick and crucify you; for surely, in time, God will judge you justly.

UNITY

Find a way not to fight amongst yourselves. That is the very thing that keeps Blacks enslaved.

LOVE

I leave you a new commandment, that you love your neighbor as yourself, and all rests on this...."

Thank you Walter R. Tucker for your loyalty and strength. Thank you for your strong convictions you've imparted to our family. Thank you for leading our four children to Christ. THANK YOU FOR OVER 36 YEARS OF UNWAVERING LOVE.

--EXCERPTS FROM: WALTER R. TUCKER'S WRITINGS (IN PROGRESS)

ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL "The Greatest Love of All" ..... *Jeannie Jackson*
(Saxophone Accompaniment by Paul Russo)

SELECTION "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" ..... *Choirs*

SCRIPTURES ..... Old Testament - Prov. 22:1
Rev. W. Jerome Fisher
New Testament - John 13:34-35
Rev. Joseph L. Holmes

PRAYER ..... *Rev. Lonnie Dawson*

SOLO "The Lord's Prayer " ..... *Mrs. Robin Tucker*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, CARDS, ETC. ..... *Ms. Gwen Robinson*

POEM ..... *Ms. Camille Tucker*

TRIBUTES & REFLECTIONS-
FRIENDS & COLLEAGUES ..... *Mr. Paul Richards*
Assistant City Manager
City of Compton
Dr. Booker Tucker
Doctor of Oral Surgery
Pastor Major Johnson
Bread of Life Christian Center
Rev. W. Jerome Fisher, Pastor
Little Zion Baptist Church

SOLO "Love Sweet Love" ..... *Mrs. Robin Tucker*

TRIBUTES & REFLECTIONS - FAMILY ..... *Mr. Wallace Tucker*
Mr. Kenneth Tucker
Ms. Keta Tucker-Collins
Mr. Walter R. Tucker, III

HIS LIFE REMEMBERED ..... *Ms. Beverly Todd*

SONG "Greater Is He" ..... *Mr. Anthony Williams*
and New Revelation

EULOGY ..... *Rev. C. Albert Henson*

INVITATIONAL HYMN "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes" (Psalm 121) .....
Pastor John Johnson

PARTING VIEW

RECESSIONAL "We Are Soldiers"

All cars driving to cemetery - drive with bright lights on

-INTERMENT-
ANGELES ABBEY MEMORIAL PARK
COMPTON, CALIFORNIA

2 Dom 3.

HIS LIFE REMEMBERED

"A GOOD name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold." Proverbs 22:1

Walter R. Tucker--a Doctor of Dentistry, the Mayor of the City of Compton, and a clergyman. Walter R. Tucker, a name that bore many titles, but also one synonymous with words like honesty, humility, integrity, temperance, and sensitivity. A name that defines such terms as "devoted husband," "loving father," "a man of high moral character," "a friend of the down-trodden," "a model citizen," and like David, "a man after God's own heart." Walter R. Tucker, a good man--A GOOD NAME.

Walter Rayford Tucker was born on August 27, 1924 in Taft, Oklahoma to the union of Carrie Matilda Watson Tucker and Nye James Tucker. The seventh of eight children, and a twin, he graduated from Washington High School in Haskell, Oklahoma. Prior to completing his higher education, he served in the United States Army achieving the rank of Sergeant and receiving an honorable discharge. Dr. Tucker's tours of duty during World War II (1942-1946) included the Philippines and occupied France. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from California State University at Los Angeles. Dr. Tucker also attended graduate school at the University of Southern California-Los Angeles, and Meharry Medical College, School of Dentistry where he received his Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree in 1955.

While in medical school, Dr. Tucker met and fell in love with Martha Ann Hinton, and on June 6, 1955 they were united in marriage. To this blessed union four children were born: Keta Gale, Walter Rayford III, Kenneth Nye and Camille Elizabeth. In 1957 Dr. Tucker and his wife Martha, moved to Compton, California, where they raised their children and have resided since that time.

Dr. Tucker's political career spans some 23 years. In 1967 Dr. Tucker was elected to the Compton Union High School Board of Trustees, and then the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees. In 1973 he was elected to the Compton City Council, representing the third district. Finally in 1981 Dr. Tucker was elected as Mayor of Compton. Serving three consecutive terms, he was the only Black Mayor ever to be re-elected to office in the City of Compton.

As the Mayor of Compton, a dentist, minister and family man, Dr. Tucker maintained a full schedule. His charisma and concern for others led him to be well respected not only in his community but also throughout the state and across the nation. His expertise in city government, his talent and proficiency in the dental profession and his Christian deportment were his trademarks.

He recognized the importance of Compton's participation in issues that reached beyond the city's borders. He wanted to see the City prosper and grow, and worked diligently toward that end. Mayor Tucker was involved in on-going negotiations and lobbying efforts to gain a higher ranking for the City of Compton in many federal and state programs, bringing much-needed funds to support City projects. Mayor Tucker was instrumental in and supported the building of the first major ho-

tel in the City of Compton. Among his priorities was the desire to see gun control laws established. Also at the top of his list of priorities was the annexation of those properties within the sphere of influence of the City of Compton.

He was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Conference of Black Mayors (NCBM), the World Conference of Mayors (WCM), and the California Council of Criminal Justice Planning. Mayor Tucker was the City's representative, and attended meetings regularly for the following organizations: The Local Agency Formation Commission, Los Angeles County Sanitation District, Southeast Mayors and Council Members Group, Independent Cities Association of Los Angeles County, League of California Cities, Southern California Association of Governments, California Contract Cities, and many other organizations.

Despite the demands made on him as mayor, Dr. Tucker--for many years--maintained a successful dental practice in the City of Compton, many times providing free dental assistance to those who could not afford to pay.

Rev. Tucker's strong faith and compassion attested to the spiritual influence of his Christian parentage. While his mother and father stressed respect for others, discipline, education and knowledge, they always encouraged him to put God first, and he did. Having received Christ at an early age, Rev. Tucker responded to God's call to the ministry in 1986. He was ordained at Zion Baptist Church in Compton by Rev. C. Albert Henson. There he served faithfully until his health began to fail.

Few invitations to participate in community events were ever refused, especially those involving children. "Education," he said, "is what will save our children... that, and a firm belief in the Almighty." Dr. Tucker took every opportunity to be among residents of the community, not only as their Mayor but also as their family dentist, their neighbor and their friend.

Dr. Tucker was loved and revered by the young and the old, the rich and the poor--many were the times he would reach into his pocket to give to a person in need. He labored tirelessly to educate, inspire and improve the quality of life for those around him. But on October 1, 1990 at 1:00 p.m., the Lord looked down on the work Walter had done and said, "Well done thou good and faithful servant...enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

Dr. Tucker leaves to rejoice in his home-going his devoted wife, Martha Tucker. Two sons: Walter Rayford Tucker, III and Kenneth Nye Tucker. Two daughters: Keta Gale Tucker-Collins and Camille Elizabeth Tucker. One daughter-in-law: Robin Marie Tucker. Two grandchildren: Walter Rayford Tucker, IV and Autumn Monet Tucker, all of Compton, California. Four brothers: Nye James Tucker, Jr., of Los Angeles, Calif.; Dr. Booker T. Tucker of Compton, Calif.; Wallace Tucker of Inglewood, Calif.; and Dr. Sebron Edward Tucker of Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. Three sisters: Mrs. Mercia McCollum of Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. Mary Jane Scott of Pasadena, Calif.; and Mrs. Clara Lyons of Los Angeles, Calif.; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, in-laws, friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ.

PALLBEARERS

Dr. Hiawatha Harris

Deacon Howard Spann

Rev. William German

Pele Puefua

Al Caberra

Wesley Sanders, Jr.

Deacon A.O. Willis

Dr. Rufus Belcher

Charles Davis

Raymond Ramirez

Willie Duhon

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Atty. Walter R. Tucker, III
Nye James Tucker, Jr.
Wallace Tucker
Nye James Tucker, III
Sebron Edward Tucker, II
Phillip Tucker
Arthur McCollum
Steve Scott
David Scott, Jr.

Kenneth Tucker
Dr. Booker T. Tucker
Dr. Sebron Edward Tucker
Wallace Tucker, II
Derek Tucker
Charles Tucker
Bruce Tucker
David Scott, Sr.
Walter R. Tucker, IV

Directors in Charge

Adams Funeral Home

Compton, California

SUCCESS

How do you measure success?
To laugh often and much;
To win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children;
To earn the appreciation of honest critics
and to endure the betrayal of false friends,
To appreciate beauty;
To find the best in others;
To leave the world a bit better
whether by a healthy child,
a redeemed social condition
or a job well done;
To know even one other life has breathed
because you lived--
this is to have succeeded.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Thank You"

We would like to thank everyone for your flowers, cards, telegrams, telephone calls, visits, letters and expressions of sympathy. Your thoughtfulness and consideration has helped to ease the pain of our great loss.

Love,

The Family of Walter R. Tucker

Contributions to
The Walter R. Tucker Memorial Fund
Can Be Mailed To:
City of Compton
C/O City Council Office
205 S. Willowbrook Ave.
Compton, California 90220

For Information Please Contact
Ms. Keta Tucker-Collins (213) 285-3770